IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of

Yoshiaki HIRANO et al.

Confirmation No. 9550

Serial No. 10/626,573

Attn: BOX MISSING PARTS

Filed July 25, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 2003 1020A

AROMATIC ETHERS AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING AROMATIC ETHERS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b.		This Information	Disclosure	Statement	is submitted
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after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

- a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4.		r each	ch non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference le to:						
	a.		a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,						
	b.	[]	a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,						
	c.	[X]	the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at pages 2-4,						
	d.	[X]	the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,						
	e.	0	the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:						
5.	0	A fore	Respectfully submitted, Yoshiaki HIRANO et al. By Michael R. Davis Registration No. 25,134						
			Attorney for Applicants						
MRD/	imi								

MRD/jmj Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 May 19, 2004

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Sheet 1 of 1										
FORM PTO 1449 (mo		THENT OF COMMERCIA			ATTY DOCKET NO. SERIAL 10/626					
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((Use seve	NCES CITED BY APPLICAN eral sheets if necessary)		FILING DAT	FILING DATE GROUP					
Date	Submitt	ted to PTO: May 19, 200			July 25, 2003			<u></u>		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS CLASS SUBCLASS FILING DATE IF										
O NIPALE		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		NAME CLASS				FILING DA APPROPE	
MAY 1 9 2007	AA	2002/0028872	3/2002	Yama	imoto et al.	ļ <u>.</u>				
2004	AB	2002/0028887	3/2002	Hira	ano et al.					
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			FORE	EIGN PATENT	DOCUMENTS					
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	AJ	49-33183	9/1974		JP				Abstract	
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	AL	54-1291	1/1979	979 JP					Abstract	
	АМ	2002-326969	11/2002		JP				Abstract	
	AN	2001-302729	10/2001		JP				Abstract	
-		OTHER	DOCUMENT(S) (I	Including Autho	or, Title, Date, Pertine	ent Pages	s, Etc.)			
	AO									
	AP									
	AQ									
EXAMINER			<u></u>		DATE CONSIDER	———				

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.